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TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF
THE MANAGING COMMITTEE OF THE AMERICAN
SCHOOLS OF ORIENTAL RESEARCH

To the Council of the Archaeological Institute of America,

GENTLEMEN:

A year of growth and promise has been clouded by the removal by death from our Board of Trustees of two eminent men, the Rev. Dr. Nies and Professor Butler. Both died on the field of duty, carried off by the aggravation of disease through their conscientious devotion to the cause of archaeology. Dr. Nies was engaged in starting the work on the school building which he had arranged to erect in Jerusalem in memory of Mrs. Nies, and this will remain also a monument to his own self-sacrifice. Our sorrow is inadequately expressed in the following Resolutions adopted by the Trustees on November 11:

Resolution in Memory of the Rev. Dr. Nies:

That the Trustees of the American Schools of Oriental Research put on record their sense of grief and sense of great loss at the death of the Rev. Dr. James B. Nies.

As a member of the Management of the Schools his counsels were invaluable. His generosity to our cause, constantly exhibited, has its permanent monuments in his munificent bequests to the School for which we hereby record our deep gratitude.

And we have lost a friend and comrade whose personality knit us to him by the cords of affection and admiration.

That a copy of this minute be sent to the members of his family.

Resolution in Memory of Professor Butler:

That the Trustees of the American Schools of Oriental Research record the sense of grief they so deeply feel in the loss sustained in the death of Professor Howard Crosby Butler of Princeton University.

Professor Butler's wide acquaintance in the Near East, and his personal knowledge of the general field of archaeological research made his counsel of inestimable advantage. He was a man in every sense of the word, and his place will not be filled.

That a copy of this record be sent to the Faculty of Princeton University.

INNER ORGANIZATION

The Board of Trustees has held four meetings since the last general meeting of the Institute. At the first annual meeting of the Corporation held in Christmas Week in New York, the Trustees appointed under the charter were elected to continue in their positions, and the officers were reappointed.

We have held our own in the list of Contributing Institutions, and have done well in keeping up the number of Patrons, but the latter list is more precarious by reason of death and withdrawal. A gift of \$1000 from Miss Juliana Wood, of Philadelphia, enabled us to finance our first small excavation in Palestine. And an appropriation of \$1000 from the Zion Research Foundation, secured through the interest of Mr. John M. Longyear (whose death last May we have to mourn), Mrs. Longyear, and Mr. Allan A. Beauchamp, has allowed us to entrust Professor Hatch with an important mission for the search of manuscripts in the Orient. There has been a gratifying increase in the number of applicants for the Thayer Fellowship, three excellent students having entered the competition last Spring.

Our hitherto occasional BULLETIN is now being issued quarterly, and serves to keep our friends in touch with our work. Prof. Mary I. Hussey is gratuitously giving her most useful services as Secretary of the Biblical and Oriental Research Fund, and has been successful in making our work known and obtaining some permanent subscribers. This fund is applied to extension work, apart from the expenses of the Schools.

THE SCHOOL IN JERUSALEM

Director Albright has continued his faithful and able labors as Director of the School. In addition to the manifold duties of administration, in which, in the day of small things, he is almost single-handed, he has shown his ability as an archaeological student both in his practical works and in his writings, and has taken full part in the eager intellectual life which has grown up in Jerusalem since the war. He has been asked by the committee for the organization of the University of Jerusalem to serve as professor of Egyptology. Offer of a similar post in the University has been made to Professor Margolis, who will go to Jerusalem as Annual Professor two years hence. The report of Dr. Albright on the School's activities is presented along with this.

In the past year there was but one regular student, the Fellow W. E. Staples, M. A., of Toronto University. For the year just beginning there are three full students from America in attendance, with others in prospect.

As Dr. Albright's report shows, there has been a most gratifying accession of valuable books to the Library through gifts of institutions and individuals. These are a welcome addition to the books which our necessarily small appropriation can provide for the purpose. We have a particular responsibility in regard to the Library, because our terms with the British School lay upon us the charge of maintaining an adequate library.

Mrs. Jastrow generously donated Professor Jastrow's library to the Schools, and the share of them, several hundreds in number, which were to be assigned to Jerusalem, arrived there in the summer and proved a most welcome addition. We have started a library fund in memory of Professor Jastrow. It now amounts to about \$1200. Professor Ropes undertook the enterprise of sending a circular letter to a large number of people asking for gifts of suitable books, and this has met with gratifying response.

Professor W. J. Hinke served us effectively as Annual Professor for the year. We owe much to the willingness of our faculty and students in suffering patiently the cramped quarters of the School, a condition which will last until the new building is erected.

THE EXCAVATION AT TELL-EL-FUL

Two new steps were taken in the past year, which are a promise of forward work for the future. Dr. Albright recommended that he be authorized to make excavations at Tell-el-Ful, considered by many to be the Gibeah of Saul, and we were able to finance this enterprise through Miss Wood's gift of \$1000. Due to the usual quarrels with and among the small local proprietors, this work lasted through several months. Occasional reports from Dr. Albright have appeared in the BULLETIN, and his full report should appear in the ANNUAL of next year.

THE JANE DOWS NIES MEMORIAL BUILDING

Our other advance is in the practical developments of the proposed School building on our large lot to the north of Jerusalem. We

were busy last winter in preparing plans for the Memorial building which Dr. Nies had offered to the School in memory of Mrs. Nies. The supervision of these plans was placed in the hands of Dean Meeks, of the Yale School of Architecture. (Reproduction of them appeared in BULLETIN No. 6.) When the plans so prepared were adopted by the Trustees, Dr. Nies proceeded with them to Jerusalem, sailing in March. He planned to obtain the necessary revisions from a local architect and to go as far as possible in starting the work of construction. His plans were brought to a termination, temporarily, by his death on June 18. But he had secured the services of Mr. Ehmann, a distinguished Palestinian architect, and had contracted for some building supplies, which have been delivered. Accordingly the work may be said to be under way. Delay is necessarily caused by the legal settlement of Dr. Nies's estate, but the interim can be profitably used in further digestion and revision of our plans.

A MISSION IN SEARCH OF MANUSCRIPTS

Yet another forward step was taken in prospect in the past year. With the donation of the Zion Research Foundation we were able to commission Professor Hatch, the Annual Professor for 1922-23 to search for manuscripts in the monasteries of the Orient. For this purpose we provided him with a photostat apparatus, which with supplies cost nearly \$1000. Dr. Hatch has made arrangements to accompany Prof. J. Rendel Harris to the famous monasteries of the Nitrian Desert and Sinai. The results should prove of value to all who are interested in the Mediterranean civilization, in both philological and theological fields.

FINANCIAL CONDITION AND PROSPECTS

Statement made above show that we are constantly enlarging our fields of enterprise and are bravely trying to meet the opportunities that present themselves. We have no doubt that means will be found and friends raised up to aid us. But the duty lies upon the Trustees to keep our needs before the eyes of the Institute and of the public. A living institution is a growing one, and growth means increase of activities, and this requires, economically, increase of funds. We have been able to do as well as we have done, on our small budget, because of our economical housekeeping in Jerusalem. The new

building, when entered upon, will entail a much greater running cost, for which we should have endowment. We require at once more money for increasing the stipends of the Annual Professors and the Fellow, and as well scholarships for assisting worthy students, for the travel cost to Palestine alone is a large item in the student's budget. There should be funds for exploration and at least occasional minor excavations. The proposed Nies building does not fill all our needs, we shall still miss a proper library building, and some friend might see in our need an opportunity for a gift or a memorial.

Our budget for the past year, as determined at the Annual Meeting was only \$6100. A bequest of \$10,000 made by Dr. Nies for a Publication Fund, will enable us to meet in part the expenses of our ANNUAL and this will be a relief to our budget.

THE SCHOOL IN BAGDAD

For the affairs of the proposed School in Bagdad I refer to the accompanying report of the Director, Professor Barton. I may only note here that its future seems to be assured by the generous bequest of Dr. Nies, which gives to it ultimately the whole of his residuary estate. We have also started a Fund in memory of Dr. John P. Peters, the income of which is to be devoted to Mesopotamian research. Something more than \$500 has been received.

For the Managing Committee,

JAMES A. MONTGOMERY,
*Chairman, and President of the
American Schools of Oriental Research.*

November 1, 1922